

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ALEXAN 00464 100834Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-07
TRSE-00 OMB-01 AID-05 IGA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 XMB-02 FRB-03
/118 W

-----101113Z 015077 /13

R 091040Z JUN 77
FM AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0831
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALEXANDRIA 0464

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ETRD, PFOR, XF
SUBJECT: ARAB BOYCOTT MEETING IN ALEXANDRIA

REF: ALEXANDRIA 0462

1. ACCORDING TO PRESS ACCOUNTS 9 JUNE, COMMISSIONER GENERAL

MOHAMED MAHGOUB EMPHASIZED IN HIS SPEECH OPENING 41ST CONFERENCE OF ARAB BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL THAT BOYCOTT IS LEGAL BY ALL INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS AND PRECEDENTS SINCE ARABS ARE STILL AT WAR WITH ISRAEL. HE NOTED ARMISTICE OR CEASEFIRE DOES NOT END STATE OF BELLIGERENCY.

2. MAHGOUB ALSO REPEATED HIS CONTENTION THAT ANTI-BOYCOTT LAWS NOW BECOMING EFFECTIVE IN THE UNITED STATES AND BEING URGED IN CANADA AND GREAT BRITAIN HAVE NO LEGAL EFFECT IN ARAB LANDS. SUCH LAWS HARM ONLY THE STATES ADOPTING THEM, HE SAID, FOR ARABS CAN MEET THEIR NEEDS FOR GOODS AND TECHNOLOGY FROM "OTHER ADVANCED COUNTRIES OF BOTH EAST AND WEST AND EVEN JAPAN."

3. ALEXANDRIA'S GOVERNOR HODEIB SPOKE ONLY BRIEFLY, A FEW PLATITUDINOUS WORDS OF GREETING. ALEXANDRIA GOVERNORATE'S DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS TOLD US MOST INTERESTING TO HIM WERE OPENING SESSION STATEMENTS OF VARIOUS DELEGATION LEADERS. HE SAID EGYPT, SAUDI ARABIA, SYRIA, JORDAN, KUWAIT AND MOROCCO ALL SPOKE IN MODERATE TERMS, URGING COMMISSION TO KEEP IN MIND NEEDS OF ARAB WORLD AS THEY REVIEW BOYCOTT PROCEDURES. SOURCE SAID SAUDI SPEECH MOST INTERESTING, HEAD DELEGATE SAYING EVERYONE AWARE THAT MANY COMPANIES CLAIM THEY ARE OBSERVING BOYCOTT IN DEALINGS WITH ARABS BUT "GO AROUND THE OTHER WAY" (PRESUMABLY THROUGH AGENTS OR FRONT COMPANIES WITHOUT PROVABLE LINKAGE TO PARENT COMPANIES) AND DEAL WITH ISRAEL. SAUDI SAID THAT EVERY ARAB COUNTRY KNOWS OF THIS, BUT CONTINUES BUSINESS RELATIONSHIP BECAUSE IT IS IN THEIR INTEREST. SOURCE SAID SPEAKER CITED GENERAL MOTORS AS AN EXAMPLE.

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4. SOURCE SAID "MODERATES" SEEMED TO BE HOLDING THE FLOOR, BUT NOTED THAT "HARDLINERS" SUCH AS ALGERIA, IRAQ AND SOUTH YEMEN HAD NOT YET SOUGHT TO SPEAK BY TIME HE AND GOVERNOR LEFT THE MEETING.

5. FROM ANOTHER JOURNALIST SOURCE THAN ONE CITED IN REFTEL, WE GET AGAIN PREDICTION CONFERENCE WILL RUN 15 DAYS.

6. COMMENT: ODD ELEMENT IN PRESS REPORTING IS THAT WHILE GAZETTE (QUITE FULL REPORT OF MAHGOUB SPEECH), PROGRES EGYPTIEN (HIGHLIGHTS AND PICTURE) AND JOURNAL D'EGYPT ALL CARRIED NEWS OF OPENING, WE FIND NO REPORTS IN EITHER EL AHRAH OR EL GOUMHOURIYA.
CHASE

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
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